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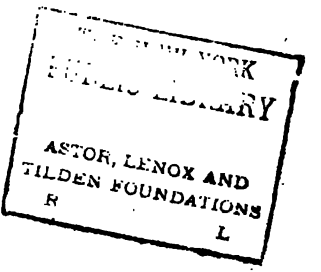
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THE

AFFECTIONATE BROTHERS.

A TALE.


ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
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THE

Affectionate Brothers.

A TALE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

By MRS. HOFLAND,

AUTHOR OF THE CLERGYMAN'S WIDOW, THE PANORAMA OF EUROPE, &c. &c.

Vigour from toil, from trouble patience grows;
The weakly blossom, warm in summer bower,
Some tints of transient beauty may disclose,
But, ah! it withers in the chilling hour.
Mark yonder oaks; superior to the power
Of all the warring winds of heaven they rise,
For each assailing blast increase of strength supplies.

BEATTIE.

VOL. II.

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THE

Affectionate Brothers.

CHAP. I.

THE life now led by Thomas was as consonant to his wishes, and as conducive to his improvement, as that enjoyed by his more fortunate brother had hitherto been to *him;* not that it was without trials, for in every state of existence people of the best disposition and most pru-

WOR 20JUN 34

dent conduct are liable to them and in every place where many are assembled, some will be found inimical to the wiser views and more exalted propriety of the rest and there were not wanting many who ridiculed the quiet manner and severe studies of our young friend, and some who, cruelly mean, insulted his poverty, jested on his dependence, and presumed on his good temper.

The strong understanding, no less than the excellent disposition of this youth, taught him in a short time to appreciate the various attacks of the profuse, weak and vicious, in a proper manner

and to repel every insinuation, and damp every sneer, by that calm dignity which shews the weak where true strength is to be found; and although there were times when he really suffered, he had sufficient self-possession to hide his pangs; by which means his tormentors were led to doubt their own power, and therefore ceased to teaze him.

A more serious cause of anxiety, however, soon interfered with his studies, and rendered him indeed the melancholy being his enemies loved to depict him; this was the bad weather poor Charles encountered on his voy-

e, which was dreadfully tedious, id at times highly dangerous; ney heard of him twice in the ourse of it, and became extremely impatient to learn from himself his state of health and prospects; but, alas! when at length the long-looked-for letter arrived, they were but too well convinced that they had underrated his past sufferings considerably, and that the trials of the voyage had far outrun their fears, although disguised by his considerate kindness as much as possible in relating the facts.

The wearisome and dangero voyage of poor Charles was r

compensa

compensated for, on his arrival, by those golden harvests he had often in imagination reaped for his beloved master, and after him for his own dear family, whose fortunes he was ever solicitous to increase. On the arrival of the ship in which he sailed at Monte Video, it was found that the state of political affairs was considerably changed; that an action had taken place, which had filled every place that offered an asylum with wounded and dying soldiers; and that instead of storehouses where British merchants could offer goods for sale, British soldiers were expiring in

want of every assistance required by their unhappy state.

The generous heart of Charles, ever alive to the dictates of humanity, was deeply wounded by the situation of his countrymen, and every hour when Mr. Hinckley, the senior clerk, could spare him from the necessary arrangements of their goods, he flew to the distressed sufferers, and to the utmost of his power contributed to their comfort, by attending to their wants, procuring food or medicine as it was needed, and not unfrequently binding their wounds under the direction of the

medical men that remained to help them.

Several Spaniards, inhabitants of the place, were amongst the wounded, and being too ill for removal, partook necessarily the fate of these soldiers. One of these, a most respectable merchant, shared, in a peculiar manner, the attentions of Charles, because he was enabled to converse with him freely in the French language, and because he was, like himself, a stranger to those around him, as his residence was at a considerable distance in the interior of the country; he spoke of himself as a husband,

band, and the father of two chi
dren, then waiting in anxiety fi
his return; and on this accou
he became still more an object
interest with Charles, who b
held with pleasure the progre
of his recovery, which might i
a great measure be imputed
his own care.

But the attentions paid to th
temporary hospital were short
to be turned to another channe
various arrivals from Englan
with choice collections of her be
manufactures, rendered it ma
ter of difficulty to dispose of th
goods they had brought over t
the advantage they wished; an

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the pains taken by Mr. Hinckley, who was somewhat advanced in years, together with the heat of the climate, sensibly affected his health. Charles endeavoured, by every means in his power, to relieve him, and to this purpose studied the language of the country with double diligence, and soon became enabled to understand it sufficiently for all purposes of co..merce, and even society; so that Mr. Hinckley, rejoicing in his powers, and reassured in his own hopes, proposed removing farther up the country, where the market would be less stocked, and of course

the

the prices be more adequate to the trouble and risk of the venture; and this was accomplished as speedily as the nature of the country, and its present state of warfare, admitted.

Knowing that all their rivals were bent on going to Buenos Ayres, they preferred visiting the towns on the northern side of La Plata; and embarking on that river with the best part of their merchandize, they in a short time fell in with the Uraguay, by which they were taken to Condelaria, where they landed safely, and endeavoured to bestow their goods; but the inhabitants

bitants appeared suspicious and inimical to their wishes, treating them rather as enemies who would bring destruction, than merchants who offered them useful commodities in the way of open trade and honest barter. Under these circumstances they were wretchedly accommodated, and the intolerable heat and toil arising from the stowage of goods, amongst people who added ill-humour to idleness, and would not be tempted to work for those they fancied it a duty to oppose, rendered Mr. Hinckley seriously ill with one of those fevers to which the country peculiarly subjects

jects strangers. Happily Charle had learnt, in his attendance a the hospital, how to treat thi complaint, and he seriously se himself to officiate both as nurs and doctor to his sick friend whom he never left for a singl moment until he was completely out of danger, attending hin with all the love of a relation the obedience of a servant, an the skill of a physician ; for sol citude and humanity teach many important lessons to the who are willing to learn them.

From this conduct Charles not only reap the immediate vantage of saving that frie

life, who in this far-distant country was at once a father, master, and tutor to him, but he found that his conduct excited the attention and elicited the good-will of the inhabitants, who in his private virtue beheld the way to benefit both themselves and the visitors they approved; they therefore readily visited the stores, and bought with avidity the articles agreeable to their choice and suited to their situation.

Still tenderly careful of the delicate health of his friend, Charles would not suffer him to use any exertion he could save him from,

and he became himself the only medium through which business was transacted; and as he now spoke the language fluently, was handsome in his person and manners, he was soon as much courted by the native residents as he had been despised; and every house in Cordelaria was soon open to his reception, with an hospitality he had never witnessed in Europe, and which therefore was more flattering and engaging to him.

After staying as long as appeared likely to answer their purpose, they removed to Assumpcion; but the journey again producing

ducing bad symptoms in Mr. Hinckley's health, it was agreed that he should become stationary at this place, where their chief magazine should remain, whilst Charles should make such excursions as appeared consistent with the object of their journey.

In this town they had the mortification and sorrow to hear of the defeat of the British army, and to learn that all hopes of establishing trade on a permanent footing were generally abandoned by those adventurers who, like themselves, had sought to establish it. They found, to their great mortification, that many

had parted with goods for less than they bought them in England; and others had, in seeking personal safety, abandoned them altogether; and that although a considerable party in favour of the English actually existed in the country, they were at present afraid to shew their heads; all was dark and gloomy; if they attempted to return, they would undoubtedly be taken prisoners, and their goods confiscated; if they presumed to proceed, they only placed themselves in a situation of equal peril, as, if apprehended, they would have less chance of escape.

In

In this dilemma, the most adviseable plan appeared that of consolidating the property they had taken as much as possible, and making the best remittances to England they were able; and as they had no doubt but numerous vessels were then sailing for England, Charles determined to disguise himself as a Spaniard, and return as speedily as possible to Monte Video.

Here he found all the confusion and distress incident to a retreating and suffering army, and in witnessing the disgrace of his beloved countrymen, he partook their feelings so much as to ex-

cite suspicion, and many eyes were turned upon him with threatening import. Happily for both himself and all whom he served, he was ever prompt in the dispatch of whatever he took in hand; and although he experienced a great deal of that lassitude consequent on a warm climate, and was frequently tempted to partake the indulgence of an afternoon's nap, or to yawn away a valuable morning, yet he never yielded to his wishes until he could say to himself—"My work is finished; I may repose without injury to my business."

Under this salutary spirit of industry,

industry, he lost no time in effecting his purpose, and very soon placed his bills and other property in the hands of a British officer on whom he could rely. He was unable, from the pressure of business, to write even a line to his dear family; but he engaged the gentleman whom he entrusted to see his mother in London, and assure her of his safety; alas! while he spoke the words that safety was lost—he was seized in the presence of his kind messenger as a spy, and ignominiously dragged away, and lodged in a close and gloomy prison.

Such

Such had been the hurry and trepidation of his late transactions, that for some time poor Charles could hardly believe the reality of what was passing around him, but was ready to fancy that an uneasy dream oppressed him. Too soon he awoke to a full conviction of the wretchedness of his situation, the failure of his hopes, and the fearful nature of the captivity in which he found himself. He was well aware that he was in a land ill provided with laws, and still worse provided with administrators in the *best* of time and rendered infinitely worse

prese

present, from the terrible confusion which ever attends the seat of recent warfare; and although he could not regret a disguise which had enabled him to remit that money so dearly obtained to his master, he yet abhorred every thing which rendered him a likely object of suspicion to the people amongst whom he had lately resided as a friend.

Day after day passed on, and he could neither obtain from his surly and silent gaoler, either information as to the duration of his imprisonment, or its probable consequence; he merely learnt, and his heart sickened at the idea,

idea, that the English had evacuated the place, and that the remainder of the goods which he had deposited on his arrival had been carried away. For some time he flattered himself that Mr. Hinckley, alarmed by his stay, would come and search for him, and either by interest or money procure his release; but by degrees this hope forsook him also, and he began to fear that the good old man had again fallen into bad health, or perhaps, deprived of his care, and in a state of mind conducive to disease, become its victim.

His own health now began seriously

riously to suffer from his close confinement and extreme anxiety, to which might be added, the scantiness and badness of the food, which at unequal and frequently far-distant periods, was allotted him. Often did he now acknowledge, that the narrow means and poor fare to which his misfortunes since his father's death had subjected him, were real blessings, since they had paved the way for the severer privations he now suffered, and which he could never have endured had he been a stranger to this painful initiation.

Often would the thoughts of

his

his dear home, and all the beloved faces which memory had faithfully pictured on his mind, now rise, and fill his heart with anguish almost too great to be endured. He would behold his mother, with pale and breathless expectation, look over every page of the newspaper, inquire by every means of his safety, and shrink, with looks of anguish, from the barren informer, which could tell her no news of her first-born. He heard, in idea, the infantine inquiries of his little sister, and her fond lamentations for dear "Broder Charley," whose presence was ever to her

the

the signal of mirth and the harbinger of joy; but on the sorrows of his brother he dwelt, if possible, with intenser sorrow, and in feeling for him he forgot even his own misfortunes, as if the woes of sympathy exceeded those of reality, and that in his sorrows Tom was the principal sufferer.

But although these soul-sinking moments at times triumphed over him, yet his mind was too firm and manly to yield to despondency; and the more he found that grief unnerved his spirits, the more he resolved to oppose it with vigour; and to

this end he began seriously t
meditate the possibility of escap
from the place of his cruel cor
finement, where it appeared no
that he had been placed rathe
from the caprice and indignatio
of the moment, than from an
regular charge, since none wa
since then exhibited against hin

CHA

CHAP. II.

THE room, or fort, in which Charles was now confined, consisted of four high walls, with a strong coved roof, from which it was lighted by a single square hole, which appeared so indifferently grated, that he was assured that if he could once reach it, he could easily break his way out of the top; and as his guard was far from vigilant, he enter-

 tained

tained hopes, from time to time, of thus escaping his prison, which was rendered only the more terrible as he was the less watched, since his guard never came near, except to bring him food, and there were many times when, in addition to all other horrors, he had that of fearing lest he should perish for want of it.

But, alas! all his means of attaining this wished-for end consisted in one low stool, and a deal board with two sticks, which was his substitute for a table Many a time in the day, and still oftener in the night, did he by the rays of the moon, or so

benigna

benignant star, place these in every possible direction, so to stand upon them as to be near the little opening which opposed his wishes; but he was still at too great a distance for the least probability of escape. One night, however, stung by disappointment of food, in addition to every other suffering, he again mounted on his crazy pedestal, and giving a high leap, actually caught hold of the bars, which instantly gave way, and he fell back into his prison with the iron lattice-work in his hand, falling on his little scaffolding, which broke all to pieces under him,

and added to his troubles that of bruising him terribly.

Hope was now apparently exchanged for despair, since the situation in which the keeper found him sufficiently explained the design he had nurtured, and shewed the opening he had made to the exterior of the building. The lazy Spaniard did not, however, give himself the trouble of repairing the breach; he contented himself with observing h could never reach it, and wit casting a contemptuous look c the broken stool and table, whi lay shivered on the floor.

Poor Charles, ever sangui endeavou

endeavoured by the help of the iron bars to put these together; and used to active life, he found his spirits return, and even the pain and stiffness of his joints relieved by this employment. In doing this he naturally cast his eyes towards the place from whence he had fallen, and which now, from the removal of the bars, admitted a freer view of the sky, on which alone he could now feast his sight. To view one star after another shine in the blue expanse, became to him a sweet employment; and his early lessons in astronomy, though at the time but little attended

tended to, he now sought to recollect; and he recalled with avidity to his mind many conversations he had held with his brother on this sublime study.

As he was thus employed one solitary night, comforting himself with that most blessed belief which either subdues misfortune, or gives us strength to bear it—that the same Almighty hand which ruleth those shining orbs and their attendant worlds, likewise ordereth all lesser things in heaven and earth, and can deliver those who trust in him from the lowest depths of adversity—he perceived something twice pass over

over the opening, which slightly impeded his view, and seemed like the waving of feathers.

To a being cut off from all intercourse with all created nature, the visit of a mouse, a fly, or even a spider, has been found of the most interesting and even endearing nature, as the sad memoirs of many prisoners have informed us. It struck Charles that this aerial guest was either a flamingo, or some other of those tropical birds whose brilliant plumage had frequently attracted his admiration since his arrival in this country. Eagerly he watched for its return, and was not

disappointed;

disappointed; in a few moments it again hovered over the orifice in the roof, and then began to descend gradually towards him.

As it approached, he perceived with surprise that it was not a bird, but one of those immense plumes of feathers which are, in this country, frequently hung from the roofs of houses, being commonly suspended over the dining-tables, and bandied to and fro between two servants, for the purpose of clearing away the numerous flies which settle on the meat.

As soon as Charles became aware of this, his heart began to throb

throb with expectation those only can form any idea of who have been in similar situations; some unknown, but friendly hand was doubtless held out to help him—on the present moment was probably suspended not only all the good or evil of future life, but life itself! Parent, brother, and country, swam before his sight, and in terrible agitation he seized and even embraced the descending plume, listening for some voice, and examining for some letter which might be concealed among the feathers to direct him.

All was silent as the grave, nor could

could he find the direction
information he sought; but
observed that the plume was fa
tened to a silken cord of so stro
a quality, that it never cou
have needed such a one for ar
purpose to which it could
commonly put, and he therefo
conceived that some person wit
out was waiting to drag him u
by its means. He pulled t
cord several times, and becam
convinced that it was held
firm and friendly hands; and b
ing ever a lad of courage, no
withstanding his late bruises,
did not hesitate to bind it firml
around him, and make a signa

b

by gently pulling, to inform those without that he was ready. His signal was understood. In a moment he began gently to ascend, and was soon at the top of his prison, where he found no great difficulty in sliding from the roof to the edge of the building, where he perceived an English gentleman and his servant, who had been his deliverers thus far, and who, now holding an open blanket, made a signal for him to jump into it, and pointed to a saddled horse at a little distance, which was provided to insure his safety.

In a moment Charles found himself in the arms of his liberator, and heard himself, in a low but most welcome voice, and in the dear language of his native country, assured of his safety. Falling on his knees, he thanked the Almighty devoutly for this unlooked-for mercy, then rising, readily accepted the clothes this generous friend had provided for him, and while dressing, eagerly whispered inquiries after Mr. Hinckley, by whom, he apprehended, this deliverance had been brought about.

"Alas!" replied the young man,

man, " I grieve to tell you that the poor old man sickened and died at Assumpcion soon after you left him. The property he had with him there was, I apprehend, disposed of by him; but I believe all is perfectly safe which you stowed in Cordelaria, and thither I would advise you to set out immediately."

Poor Charles was sincerely afflicted to hear of the death of his friend, so far from his native land and from every comfort; but he had no time to reveal his feelings, and finding this gentleman's humanity had been the

sole cause of his interference in his behalf, awoke his gratitude in the most lively manner; and although his tears flowed to the memory of the dead, his words rapidly shewed what he felt due to the living.

" My dear fellow," said the stranger, " I hope to gain a *friend* in you, and that will surely repay, a thousand times, the exertions I have at length happily made to terminate your captivity, which has, I know, been continued, rather from the obstinacy and idleness of your confiners, than any remaining malice

malice against your country, or suspicions of yourself. However, to provide against contingencies, set out, as I direct, for Cordelaria; there claim your property, and dispose of it in your own character. It is probable that I shall see you in the course of a fortnight at that place, and in the meantime think of Edward Mainwaring as your English friend and liberator, and one ever happy to serve you."

Charles was precisely at that age, and under those circumstances, when a friend so newly found, and of such engaging manners

as Edward possessed, was likely to make the most lively impression; and with all the ardour of gratitude, and the romantic fervour of youth, he protested that he would never cease to love and thank him, and that he should wait with impatience for the day that should unite them; he then hastily mounted, and was just pricking his horse into a gallop, when Edward checked him, to present him a well-stocked purse and a brace of pistols, both of which, he observed, were necessary to a traveller.

The day was now dawning, and

and for some miles the only care of Charles was that of speed; but when he had proceeded far enough to insure safety, he became sensible of the want of food and repose, and was looking anxiously around for both, when his attention was drawn towards a man who sat under a shrub near him, who appeared sick and in distress. He turned to him immediately, and with great emotion perceived that he was an English sailor.

The poor man was endeavouring to get to Monte Video, in order to procure a passage for England.

England or the West India Islands; but he had suffered so much from extreme poverty, that he sat down here literally to breathe his last, and but for the cheering voice of his countryman, would probably have finished his mortal existence, without a human being to speak peace to his departing soul.

Charles, though extremely solicitous to do him every kind office, yet saw that it was absolutely impossible to return to Monte Video on the very day he had escaped from thence as a prisoner; he therefore proposed



to him to return up the country with him until his health should be re-established; to which the sailor readily consented; and accordingly Charles mounted him on his own horse, and by his direction they proceeded to a village near the place, where he immediately procured refreshment; and after some hours' repose, they were both so much refreshed as to proceed on their journey, the sailor riding, and Charles walking beside him, often leading his horse over rugged places, which the tar declared he could not navigate.

The night was beautifully serene,

rene; and as our young hero gazed on the wide expanse of scenery around, and the glorious arch of heaven above him, he felt all the sweets of liberty, and with rapture inhaled the pure breeze, which appeared to renovate his strength, and restore to him that portion of life he had spent in the close vapours of his cheerless prison. Never had he experienced such delightful sensations. Home, and joy, and wealth, and friends, and honour, swam before his eyes, while gratitude to the great Giver of all awoke in his bosom that ecstacy which springs from true devotion.

While

While enjoying these sublime emotions, his actions naturally partook the fervour of his heart, and from time to time he sprung forward with light and bounding steps, until recalled by the wants or the entreaties of his companion. In this situation they entered a wooded glen, where it became necessary to explore the path, and reconsider the instructions they had received, which had particularly recommended silence; for this pass, though short, was dangerous, from being infested with wild beasts.

They proceeded in silence, but without

without fear; for one was too happy to entertain despondence —the other, relieved from death and inured to danger, thought not of it, and repeated not his warning, though the young man had proceeded again beyond his view. Charles had, in fact, heard a rushing sound among the brushwood, for which he could not account, and stepping forward, he caught the glare of what appeared two twinkling diamonds of astonishing magnitude. In a moment the coppice shook —some terrible animal, whose gleaming eyes he had beheld, sprung

sprung forth towards an object he did not see, by reason of the overshadowing trees, but which uttered a faint cry in a human voice as the terrible destroyer advanced towards him.

Humanity, courage, and even the terror of the scene, gave instant energy to Charles; he flew after the bounding steps of the tiger—he was on the spot at the very instant when he seized the cloak of a solitary Spaniard, and grasping his pistols firmly, he advanced to the very head of the ferocious beast, and with a well-nerved arm fired immediately at

his head; but he knew not the extent of his danger—the ball wounded, but did not kill the monster, who turned with fury on his antagonist. But for his self-command, he would have been an immediate victim; he fired the next pistol, and the tiger fell; whilst the Spaniard, reassured, arose, and presented his preserver with a dagger, which the sailor, now arrived, took at his hand, and observing that his young master was not accustomed to such things, used to dispatch him.

The enemy thus defeated, the little

little party endeavoured to give and receive congratulations; but they were too sensible of remaining danger to say much. Reloading the pistols, each took one, while the sailor, whose name was Humphrey, still brandished the dagger, and they proceeded in silence, and forming a close phalanx, until they emerged into a more populous district, stopping together at the first house that would receive them.

Signor Francisco, the Spaniard thus providentially rescued, had the appearance of a poor old man, but his language be-

spoke him a man of education, and his manners were far superior to his appearance. In his conversation he expressed a great sense of the obligation laid upon him by the courage and promptitude of Charles, and confessed himself exceedingly to blame for travelling without servants through such a country. From this he concluded that the signor had servants, but otherwise he would not have guessed it; he treated him, however, with deference, as an elderly man; and from that natural love we all have to that which we have benefited, he

he could not bid him adieu on the day following, without shewing the sensibility of a heart which ever abounded in kindness to its fellow-creatures; and although the signor was not a man apparently of "melting mood," he yet evidently felt no common attachment towards the youthful stranger who had been his deliverer from a horrible death.

CHAP. III.

On arriving at Cordelaria, he was immediately recognised as the holder of the stores, which were placed in his power with the utmost honour; and many of those who had become acquainted with him on his first visit to that place welcomed him with cordiality, and were willing to purchase the remainder of his cargo,

cargo, which he was anxious to part with, being extremely desirous of returning to his country, so soon as he could do it with advantage to his employers. He became again the man of business, and compared the months he had spent in confinement to a fever which had deprived him of the use of his limbs, which, now he was restored, must be used with double diligence; his first care being to dispatch letters to England, although he trusted to reach his beloved friends almost as soon as they would, it being probable that their route would be

be extremely circuitous. The greatest trouble he now felt was the loss he unavoidably had sustained of losing all his own letters during the period of his confinement, and the utter impossibility of inquiring for them at Monte Video, until his escape and his unjust confinement should be completely blown over, as he had learnt, from bitter experience, that people will often persist in wrong, merely because they have commenced in it.

One morning, as he was busied in arranging his stores, he was most agreeably surprised by a visit

visit from the wounded merchant whom he had attended in the hospital on his first arrival at Monte Video, and who, having long lost sight of him, had concluded that he had left the country with the principal body of English adventurers; he embraced him with the greatest affection, and gave him a pressing invitation to his house, which was not many miles distant, assuring him that his family would receive him as a friend and benefactor.

Before Charles could resolve to accept this invitation, his friend,

friend, Edward Mainwaring, arrived; and as he was included, and as Don Lopez, the merchant, could be not only his hospitable entertainer, but likewise his best assistant in the disposal of the remaining stock, he no longer hesitated to accept his kind proposal, and accordingly they all departed together.

The house of Don Lopez was situated on the banks of the river Uruguay, and commanded a delightful prospect. It was adorned with all the elegancies that wealth can procure under the dominion of taste, and our young traveller

traveller was received by the amiable and delighted family with gratitude, politeness, and esteem. Every luxury now courted his acceptance, and the pomp of Asiatic luxury and indulgence now supplied the lonesome days and scanty meals under which he had so long suffered; his care-worn looks and half-famished cheeks soon returned to their usual health and beauty; and the daily improvement in his appearance so delighted the worthy family, that they were unwearied in their efforts to please and amuse him. Costly banquets were

were suceeded by sprightly music and gay dances, or sometimes they made parties on the river, where, seated in light vessels, whose splendid awnings tempered the refulgent light, they amused themselves with fishing, or sketching the beauteous creeks and woody promontories that skirted this noble branch of the Plata, or in listening to the soft guitar and sweet airs sung by Signora Angela (and her friends), the accomplished daughter of Don Lopez.

But in all this round of pleasure no other circumstance was

so

so endearing to Charles as the enjoyment of Edward's society, who being just of his own age, being his own countryman, and, above all, being his liberator from a loathsome prison, had gained a hold on his affections above all other ties, and appeared to stand him instead of all that he had lost in his own country. From his earliest recollection, the unbounded confidence he had enjoyed with his brother had been a source of high enjoyment and pure consolation to him, and this pleasure was now restored at a time when the long privation he

had suffered rendered it doubly valuable. No wonder he gave his mind up to it with too great facility, and suffered it to steal him even from the memory of those who had far stronger claims upon him; for it was ever poor Charles's error to act too much without reflection, although he had in a great measure overcome the propensity.

One evening, as he was walking with his new friend, enjoying the cool breeze in the verandah, Mainwaring observed that Don Lopez was a good customer to Charles; he had given him bills

bills to a considerable amount that morning.

"He is every way good," returned Charles; "but I wish he had paid me in cash, as I want to return you the twenty ducats you had the goodness to lend me the night you rescued me."

"Never mind them; money is nothing between you and me; I did not know how many there were in the purse, I am sure."

"*You* might not; but it would have ill become me not to have convinced myself, being brought up as I have been in regular attention to money matters, and

being under a just necessity c
considering the means of repay
ment."

"Well, my dear fellow, I wi
confess to you, now we are o
the subject, that I want money
and if you will give me one c
Don Lopez's bills, it will conve
nience me greatly; I will get
made into ducats to-morrow."

Immediately Charles took ou
his pocket-book, and presentin
him with a bill for one hundre
ducats, said he was happy in a
commodating him, and no mo
passed on the subject; but witl
in a few days some company a

rivii

riving at the house of Don Lopez, Mainwaring got the bill cashed, but did not mention any thing of returning the change to his friend, who was a little surprised, as nothing less than a positive want of cash would have made *him* so long the debtor of Edward as he had been. He concluded that the same cause would have operated in *his* case; but so dearly did he love him, that had the money been his own, he would have given it him freely ten times over.

One morning he arose early

to arrange his accounts, and consider of a proposal made to him by the merchant the day before, respecting the entire exchange of his remaining stock for oxen, with which the country abounded, and which he was well assured would find an excellent market in the West India Islands. He was seriously revolving this in his mind when Edward, entering abruptly, asked him if he could lend him a little cash?

"I have got a few dollars."

"Dollars! nonsense! I want a hundred pounds or two for a speculation

speculation which I think will turn out very profitably by-and-by."

"It is utterly out of my power; I have not so much in the world, my dear friend."

Edward burst into a loud laugh, and pointed to the notes on the table, which amounted to many hundreds.

"My dear fellow, these are not mine—they are my employer's; and although I am at this moment considering how to engage in a profitable speculation for him, yet I am sure you will think as I do, that I could not

not sport his money on my own account or yours."

Edward sat down; his face assumed a serious cast, and with a tone of tenderness and playful familiarity, which was peculiar to him, he addressed Charles thus—"My dear fellow, at the risk of your life, and to the loss of your liberty, you adventured to send a large sum to England for your employer, and which he doubtless has received long ago; this sum will indemnify him from all loss, which is as much as he has any right to expect in the affair, since not one adventurer in twenty

twenty has escaped so well; make yourself easy, therefore, as to the rest. This is the country for enjoying life; in this family you are idolized; assume the property as your own, and there is no doubt but you may marry the beautiful Angela, become the partner of her rich father, and, without injury to yourself, make the fortunes of that man to whom you have vowed eternal friendship."

Charles was silent.

The tempter continued—"Should you return to England, what chance have you in life, but

but to remain a servant all your days? for your master, having sons of his own, cannot with propriety take you into partnership, and will think he rewards you for all your sufferings by advancing you to a place of a paltry hundred a-year, probably; whereas here you will at once live in luxury and acquire riches; you will be able to transmit your mother an income that will render her as comfortable as she has ever been, and make your pretty sister a match for a gentleman; or perhaps they will all come over to you here, when they know

know how you are situated; even your brother, the little parson elect, will lay down his Latin and Greek to share the gold of this land of Ophir."

"Never, never!" exclaimed Charles, rising suddenly on his feet; "no, my dear Tom, I will not break thy heart for the riches of all this hemisphere! May God forgive me that I have even listened for a moment to proposals that would dye thy honest cheek with blushes, my brother, my friend!"

The violent agitation Charles experienced at this moment forced

ced the tears freely from his eyes, and when he cast them on him whom he had loved so tenderly and esteemed so highly, his anguish rose to very agony—"Ah, Edward," he cried, "is it you who would betray me—you, to whom my grateful heart has given a brother's place, and for whom I would have sacrificed all my worldly prospects? I tremble to think how extensive your power was over my heart only a few moments ago; but I thank you for naming my *brother*—it has restored me to myself—it has been the talisman by which a merciful

merciful Providence tore the veil from my eyes, and shewed me the gulf into which I was plunging."

Shrunk and ashamed, Edward stood before him a guilty and self-condemned creature; in vain, for some minutes, he endeavoured to parry the words and looks of his friend, which he felt to speak, even in their mildest accents, daggers of reproach; at length, overwhelmed, he sunk on a sofa, and, hiding his face, declared himself utterly ruined, and protested that nothing less than his extreme distress would have in-

 duced

duced him to make such dishonourable proposals to Charles, exclaiming, in great affliction, that there had been a time when he too should have spurned the idea of fraud like that which he recommended so lately to another.

Charles now looked upon him with pity, and earnestly entreated him to return to that path of integrity he had quitted: he now learnt that Edward had been, like himself, entrusted with goods for an English house, which he had sold to very little profit; and during the time he was thus en

gage

gaged at Buenos Ayres, he had been led into company which engaged him in gaming, which paved the way to a total depravation of character, and led him to determine on remaining in a country which he thought would prove to him a golden harvest; he had found himself deceived in his hopes, and was about to return to England, when learning the situation of Charles, he determined to release him, and then claim his gratitude; but the undeviating propriety of his victim had hitherto frustrated his wishes, and he had waited the develop-

ment of his schemes until he supposed long absence had weakened his attachment to his native country, and luxurious living should have enervated his mind, and rendered him liable to seduction.

When Edward had finished this confession, the humiliation of which he appeared severely to feel, Charles thus addressed him —"Wounded as I am by your proposal, and shocked as I must be with knowing how closely I have associated with one whose conduct has been so diametrically opposed to all that a young

man in my situation ought to approve, yet I can neither tear you wholly from my affections, Edward, nor forget my own obligations to you; leave me for one hour, during which I will calculate my own wages, and I promise you faithfully to give you to the amount of the last shilling I am worth in the world; in the mean time, consider if there is any other way in which I can serve you, and be assured I will do it to the very utmost in my power. Oh my friend, if you can resolve to be worthy of that

name, how happy would it make me!"

When Edward was gone, Charles seriously took his own heart to task, and examined how far he had been accessary to the conduct of Edward; and he acknowledged that he had been imprudent in giving the reins too much to his affections; and that even a demand on gratitude cannot, in all cases, warrant unbounded confidence and esteem —"Alas!" said he, "it is hard to doubt when it is sweet to love;" he perceived that this fascinating

cinating stranger had won him in a great measure, from those natural ties which were so justly dear to him, had weakened, though imperceptibly, his sense of religious observances, and the punctualities necessary in business; and that, if it had not been for the presence and interference of Don Lopez, all business would have been neglected; he now bent his knee with deep humility to the Author of his being, lamenting his unworthiness, and entreating that support and guidance which cometh from God alone,

alone, and arose refreshed and inspirited.

Having fulfilled his promise, he found that forty pounds were due to him, over and above the hundred ducats that he had already advanced to Edward, and with this in his hand he now sought this unhappy and guilty young man. The moment he beheld him he would have fled; but Charles spoke to him with kindness, and entreated him to accept his money as a debt due for a service of the last importance, and as money which he had *honestly earned.*

At

At these words Edward, flinging himself on his neck, declared solemnly, that such was his deep contrition, and utter abhorrence of his past conduct, that he would now give the whole world to be placed in any situation where he could indeed honestly earn his living by suitable exertions.

Willing to believe, and anxious to serve him, Charles lost not a moment in recommending him to the service of Don Lopez, who engaged him as a foreign clerk, in which he could be respectably employed without any money,

money, save his own, ever passing through his hands—a circumstance that would have been hazardous both to him and his employer. This business settled, Charles lost not another hour in expediting his own concerns; he felt that the house of Don Lopez had but too many attractions for him, and he resolved to tear himself away whilst yet it was in his power; but a new and different trial yet awaited him.

Don Lopez dearly loved the amiable young man who had so tenderly watched him in the day of his trouble, and further acquaintance

quaintance had increased his attachment; he had seen for some time a mutual tenderness stealing over the minds of his daughter and their young guest; and as money was no object with him in a case of so much moment, he resolved that the want of it on Charles's side should not prove an obstacle; but though the generous Spaniard could wave all claims of fortune, he could not think of giving his daughter to an heretic; he therefore took occasion one day to lay before him all the doctrines and advantages which he believed to belong to his

his own mode of faith exclusively, and at length concluded with saying, that in case Charles could embrace it, he would gladly receive him as a son.

Angela was dear to Charles as the light of day; she was beautiful, innocent, and affectionate, and he thought she loved him; this was *indeed* a trial, and the young man nearly sunk under it —"I have not," said he mentally, "considered much on this subject; I have no doubt but the Catholic religion has many excellent members, and if I am really a Christian, what does it signify

signify what name I bear? Thomas is, to be sure, of a different persuasion, and——"

At the thoughts of Thomas every idea of reconciling himself to the Catholic faith vanished; he saw again clearly that it was his duty to tear himself from the contemplation of a subject at once so dear and so dangerous; and professing himself unable to comply with the requisition, he pressed the good merchant to his heart, and hastily departed, attended by Humphrey, not trusting himself with another view of Angela.

Having settled all his affairs in the best manner possible, he once more bent his steps to Monte Video, being furnished with letters to the magistrates, who received him now with kindness, and honourably acquitted him of all designs against the state, ascribing his captivity to his disguise, and the necessary vigilance the times then required. Here he embarked for the West India Islands, taking a large cargo on board, intended for the markets of those islands; and having a fair wind, though a somewhat sad and divided heart,

we will leave him to recover his spirits, and exert them in useful employment, whilst we inquire after his long-lost family in England.

CHAP. IV.

WHEN the public papers had announced the sad news of the British defeat at Buenos Ayres and the arrival of different vessels without any tidings of Charles both Mrs. Harewood and her youngest son felt the greatest alarm for the safety of this beloved object; but when the officer arrived with remittances, they were

were in some measure relieved, as they were thence assured of his life and health, especially, as although the officer mentioned the arrest which he witnessed to Mr. Coulston, he kept it from those whom it would so greatly have alarmed and affected.

From this time no information of any kind reached them, until some letters from Mr. Hinckley arrived, lamenting the absence of the excellent young man, who had been to him as a son and brother, and inquiring whether he had not himself been obliged to embark with the pro-

perty he left him in order to forward from Monte Video? Next followed an account of the death of this gentleman, after which no news of any kind arrived, as the ship was unfortunately lost by which the letters were sent written by Charles on his liberation.

Month after month rolled heavily away; and as no further tidings were heard, either of Charles or the remaining investments, there were not wanting those about Mr. Coulston who insinuated that Charles had converted them to his own use, and would never be heard of again.

These

These inuendoes the good merchant would never endure; he maintained stoutly his good opinion of Charles, and determined to wait yet a little longer.

Sometimes buoyant in hope, sometimes afflicted with fear, Thomas continued to pay the most unremitting attention to his studies, and attained not only praise from his kind patron, but rewards from the University, and was thereby enabled greatly to help himself, and even his mother, as the good Doctor persisted in making him the same allowance he had first presented

him

him with until his brother should return, or some permanent salary should be allotted him.

The life of a studious man is given in few words; it is rich in effect, but barren in incident, and nearly as monotonous as poor Charles had found his prison-hours; and although melancholy for his brother's doubtful fate tinged the days of poor Thomas, yet he seldom essayed a change of action, or experienced a diversity of feeling, until his arrival in London, in consequence of a sudden summons from his mother, just after he had been

been presented with a new honour from the college to which he belonged, and the prospect of a lucrative situation.

But from this interview the calm tenor which had hitherto "possessed his soul in peace" was known no more; those whispers and conjectures which had hitherto been scarcely breathed against the fair fame of his brother, were now publicly spoken; they had reached even to his mother, and had pierced her heart with a pang she had never felt till now.

Letters had been received from a respectable

a respectable merchant, in which mention was made of Charles, as residing in the interior of the country, and carrying on business on his own account as a merchant, being closely connected with one Mainwaring, a known gamester, and man of disreputable character; and it was added that Harewood was about to renounce his religion, for the sake of marrying a merchant's daughter in the country, as he never could return to his own.

On the hearing of this cruel and yet too-probable account, being

being apparently upheld by circumstances, a new and energetic spirit appeared at once to inform the soul of Thomas; he insisted on his brother's innocence, with all the vehemence of affection and the decision of innate and uncontrollable conviction; he spoke of his early education, the principles instilled from early life, his own native generosity, and, above all, his sense of moral justice and religious obligation; but finding that he convinced only himself and his mother, and really believing that at least so much

much of the tale was true as related to his dear brother's existence, he at length determined to set out himself for that country which had proved so fatal to the peace of a family who knew no happiness but in each other.

Mrs. Harewood naturally remonstrated against it—"If I am bereaved of *both* my children," cried she, with the patriarch, "surely it will bring down my grey hairs with sorrow to th grave!"

"But, my dear mother, shou Charles be innocent, ought

not to be drawn out from this cloud of calumny, and brought to meet his accusers?"

"Certainly, my dear boy."

"And if he is guilty, which, God forbid! ought he not to be sought and reclaimed?"

"Oh yes, at any price I would reclaim him."

"And who, dear mother, is so likely to effect either as myself? the brother he always loved so tenderly, and one who is devoted to the sacred office of calling sinners to repentance?"

A faint consent, breathed in a sigh that proved how deeply

the mother's heart was wrung, decided this projected expedition; and as Doctor Eccleston could not help approving the determination of his amiable and virtuous *protégé*, Thomas speedily embarked on board a vessel bound for Rio Janeiro, from whence he hoped to obtain the means of exploring his brother's supposed residence.

When he was really set out, the spirits of poor Mrs. Harewood sunk to the lowest ebb, and all the tender endearments of her lovely girl, now in her seventh year, and a most promising

child,

child, were unequal to raising them; but from one of those incidents which continually cross us in life, it so happened, that within a week after Thomas had sailed, Humphrey, the companion of her eldest son's voyage to the West Indies, arrived in London, accompanying an investment of West India produce, sent by the industrious and successful Charles to the master whose interest he had protected to the uttermost.

Here then was proof of his honesty which refuted every calumny, and the widowed heart

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of his mother was enabled not only to rejoice in his innocence, but the near prospect of beholding him, as he was only waiting for certain payments in Martinique, when he intended to embark on board the packet, and might therefore be expected every day, as it was probable that he would sail much quicker than the heavy-laden vessel of the faithful Humphrey had done.

"Be happy, my dear madam," said Mr. Coulston; "you have been long an anxious and laborious mother, but I trust the evening of life will be spent in ease;

ease; for from the moment your son arrives, he shall become my partner. In giving such an assistant and example to my children, I render them the highest good I can bestow."

Tears of delightful gratitude and delightful hope coursed down the cheeks of the fond mother; but her joy was suddenly checked on remembering her youngest son—"Alas!" cried she, "what hours of sad solicitude, what wearisome wanderings and heart-breaking disappointments must he not experience! and strange as he is to the world, a-

verse from its bustling pursuits, and new to the habits and manners of those around him, how great must be his disgust, how unhappy his situation!"

But even the fears of the tender mother did not paint the sufferings of her youngest son; they arose not from the novelty and disagreeableness of his situation, for although that was very unpleasant to him, he was too much engrossed by one great source of anguish to think of himself, or his convenience and comfort; Charles, dear Charles, alone occupied his mind; on *him* he

he thought—for *him* he prayed incessantly; and though the gentleness of his manners and the benignity of his countenance insured him from giving offence to those around him, he yet continued as much a stranger to them as if he was still studying in his college, so much was he occupied with the engrossing object of his affectionate solicitude.

He had been only five days at sea, however, when his attention was forcibly seized by an object that could not fail to awaken the energies and fix the attion of every Briton; a French privateer

privateer was coming athwart them, having already captured an English packet, and evidently designing to add their vessel to her prize.

Although far inferior in force, yet the sailors, to a man, and even the passengers, determined to defend their floating castle with the most determined bravery, and Tom not only caught their enthusiasm, but blended it with that higher species of courage natural to a mind accustomed to continual reflection; but in a short period all powers of abstraction, even in him, were suspended;

suspended; the action was begun, and life and death, freedom and captivity, hung on the decision; the fear of the latter was almost equal to the former in the thoughts of the affectionate brother, who felt as if more than mortality depended on his beholding and regaining Charles.

In a short time the captain of the vessel became aware of his own power, and perceived that the Frenchman had not taken his little prize without a contest which had in part disabled him; on communicating this, the crew were more solicitous to press their advantages,

advantages, and the consequence of their determined valour became not only their own security, but the capture of the enemy.

"You have fought bravely, Sir," said the Captain to Thomas; "and as fighting is not your profession, I esteem it the more noble in you; and as a reward for your exertion, I commission you to give liberty to our brave countrymen now under the hatches of that packet."

Tom, with his sword still in his hand, and all the glow of recent toil and exultation on his

cheek, most gratefully accepted the permission, although a wound in his shoulder was bleeding freely. He flew to the vessel, and cried aloud—"Liberty! liberty!"

He was answered by a shout from within, and one voice seemed to vibrate on his ear in tones that reached his heart; he was unequal to perform the endearing office he undertook, and in breathless agitation he sunk back into the arms of the sailor who was the nearest to him.

His faintness was imputed to his wound, and he was carried imme-

immediately upon deck. In a few moments the late imprisoned party swarmed around like bees escaping from their hive. The buzz of voices again broke on his ear; he was sensible of a close pressure around him, and one, distinct from all the rest, exclaimed—"For Heaven's sake staunch that wound! Oh that my blood could flow for his!"

Tom opened his eyes, and, kneeling at his feet, with anxiety marked in every feature, beheld the object of his search—his brother.

For a moment he gazed upon him

him; it was *indeed* Charles—honest, affectionate, open-hearted Charles—the brother of his infancy, the friend of his heart; they rushed into each other's arms, and every care and every sorrow, in that blessed moment, were overpaid to each.

Mutual inquiries succeeded; the surprise of Charles was particularly excited on seeing Tom's situation; how did that surprise give way to gratitude, and melt into even feminine tenderness, when he learnt that for him the studious youth had left the

" cloister's pale" to dare the unknown deep, and wander beneath the torrid zone, to seek, and, were it needful, to reclaim him!

But oh, how happy was Tom to find that his brother had proved as worthy of his pride as of his love, and that *he*, though far distant, had been the means of holding him steady in the path of virtue! and though he wept bitterly over the long sufferings of his painful captivity, he yet observed, with honest exultation, that there was no dungeon so dark

dark as a guilty conscience – no state so degrading as a dishonoured mind.

After the captain had made proper arrangements with his prize, the packet was appointed to convey her into port—an honour she well merited, from the noble though ineffectual resistance she had made, and of course the brothers returned to London together.

As Charles was aware that his mother would be then expecting him, from the arrival of Humphrey, he made his appearance first, and was welcomed by her

with all the delight which a mother so situated could feel towards her first-born son, now become a fine young man, equal to being the guardian and support of his widowed parent and her helpless daughter; that daughter next claimed his attention—a lovely flower, that sought his protecting tenderness to rear it to maturity, as a brother and a father; with what pleasure did he gaze—how did his kind heart repeat a thousand kind promises he was unequal to utter!

"But, dear heart," said the mother,

mother, "our poor Tom is not here to share our pleasure."

"Yes, indeed, my dear mother, he is very near us."

With unmixed pleasure the happy rencounter was now related, and in a few minutes both the sons stood before their mother; and although the younger, to the surprise of many of his acquaintance, bore witness that "he had been in the wars," yet he was evidently but little the worse for it.

The happy party were broken in upon by Humphrey, who had proved himself to Charles a good

and faithful servant, and as such had been rewarded by Charles's master, and who now beheld what he had long wished for, the young man who had literally been the good Samaritan to him, in possession of health and happiness in his own country, and surrounded by his own family; but this happiness was further increased when Mr. Coulston arriving, clasped the wanderer to his bosom, and with a countenance that said, in the language of holy writ—"Welcome, thou good and faithful servant," informed him of the intention he had previously

viously expressed of taking him into partnership—"Besides this," added Mr. Coulston, "I find I am commissioned by poor Hinckley, whose papers have only just come to hand, to pay you a legacy of five hundred pounds, or failing your life, he has given it to your mother."

"Then be it hers, my dear sir," said Charles; "it will furnish her a house in which, through your kindness, I hope to maintain her in comfort."

With sentiments of approbation Mr. Coulston now took leave. The conversation became more

more regular; and even Emily took a share in it, inquiring, with all the lively curiosity of youth, and particularly with that awakened by her reading, of all the wonderful things that her brother had seen during an absence which had lasted more than half of her whole life.

Charles replied to all her inquiries with the most endearing kindness, and lamented that he had been able to bring her but few proofs of his remembrance, and those by no means valuable. In adverting to this he was induced to speak of his obligations

to

to Mainwaring; and this fully and satisfactorily explained to his family whence his unfortunate connexion with that young man had arisen.

As Louisa did not find this very entertaining, she had skipped down stairs to Humphrey, who had delighted her with the wonderful story of her brother rescuing an old Spaniard from the very jaws of the most terrible tiger that ever was heard of; and when she came back, she could not fail so to relate it as greatly to affect the nerves of her mother,

ther, and call forth the eulogies of her younger brother.

"There was nothing particular in *that* part of the story," said Charles, eager to silence his own praises; "but there was undoubtedly something very singular in the circumstance of my meeting with the same person in Martinique."

"Oh dear, how was that?" cried Emily, eagerly, as she pressed up to take the offered place on his knee.

"It was thus, my little inquisitor. One evening, at the time when

when I was exceedingly busy, preparing for the departure of Humphrey, we were returning home from the ship, and in crossing the quay perceived some Portuguese sailors hustling, and, as we apprehended, ill-using an old man dressed in the habit of their own country.

"My man, who is rather subject to using a word and a blow as a conclusive argument, soon laid about him in such a manner as to rescue the man, but not till one wretch had plunged his knife in his side. Humphrey knocked the offender down. I took

took the sick man in my arms, and being, as you see, pretty strong, carried him fairly away, and would have conveyed him to my lodgings, but in a faint voice he requested to be carried to his own; and accordingly I took him whither he requested to be carried; being now followed by Humphrey, who at the first glance of his face exclaimed—'Well, if this ben't Signor Francisco, I'll be flogged; the sailors swore he was a famous miser—the lying scoundrels.'

"The wounded man now recollected us both, and lamented that

that his countrymen, more cruel than the tiger, had proved mortal to their prey; but he admitted that they had spoken only the truth, and lamented that his avaricious disposition made all the world his enemies."

"And did he really die?" cried Emily.

"Indeed he did, my dear, on the following day, about two hours after Humphrey embarked. I was with him at the last, and shall never forget his earnest adjuration that I would remember that 'God abhorreth the covetous man.' Indeed he gave me

a little book, which, he said, contained the history of his life, and which, some winter evening, we will all read together. I packed it up carefully with the rest of my papers, though, like its owner, it was pretty well battered and weather-worn."

"Oh, how I should like to look at it!"

"Well, if you can get Humphrey to uncord that box, and will be very careful how you remove the contents, your curiosity may be satisfied."

Emily was soon in possession of the expected prize, and, like many

many other possessors, found herself sadly disappointed at an old vellum case, on which was written only—"The dying bequest of him who during his life gave too little, in order that he might leave too much behind him."

"Dear brother, this is no history at all, but only loose papers. Look at them—I can make nothing of them—I suppose it was not intended that little girls should understand them."

Charles took them from her hand, and beheld with astonishment securities for ten thousand

pounds in the English funds, all legally presented and appropriated to his use.

"Look! look! you have dropped one paper," said the child.

The one paper was a loose envelope of four bank bills of fifty pounds each, directed to Humphrey, by the trembling hand of the expiring donor.

The sight of these bills awoke inquiry in all, and all, with equal delight, beheld the magnificent reward of Charles's courage and kindness—the recompence of his virtue and industry, and congratulated

gratulated him upon it with tears of joyful satisfaction.

"To make it indeed a blessing," said Charles, "Tom must consent to share it with me; one half of this, employed with my late excellent master, will form a rich income for my mother and myself—the other, placed in government funds, will be a small but permanent and sufficient income for you, my dear brother; and added to that fellowship you will, I doubt not, soon enjoy, render you as easy in your circumstances as a man whose

wealth is books would wish to be."

"Freely have you given, and freely will I take," answered Thomas; "for in doing it I know I give you happiness; I ask only out of this same income sometimes to share my mother with you."

The mother turned to reply, her eyes swimming with pious tears; but before she could speak, the entrance of a stranger obliged her suddenly to wipe them from her cheeks; for there was nothing in the gentleman's 'appearance

pearance that argued sympathy with such a scene as this.

"I presume, Madam," said he, "that you are the mother, and therefore natural guardian, of this infant, by name Emily Harewood, daughter of the late Charles Harewood and Louisa his wife?"

Mrs. Harewood coldly answered she was.

"Then, Madam, it is my duty and business forthwith to inform you, that by the will of the late John Bassett, Esq. deceased, said infant becomes possessed of ten thousand pounds three per cent.

cent. consols, so soon as she arrives at the age of twenty-one years, interest, *ad interim*, payable to you for her board and education; which interest ceasing, you shall receive three hundred per annum for remainder of your natural life."

Joy again chained every faculty of the happy group, who perceived, in this delayed kindness to the family of his friend, a proof that Mr. Bassett had been infected with Signor Francisco's easy-besetting sin; but although delayed thus, it was still heartily welcome, and awoke the

the most devout gratitude to that Almighty Protector who had thus filled their cup of mercy full to overflowing, and had led them through the thick clouds of poverty and sorrow to the blessings of independence and prosperity.

The lessons of adversity were too deeply and early written on their hearts to lose their first and best impressions; they have taught them still to tread the path of virtue with humility, industry, and integrity, and with especial gratitude acknowledge the kindness of all those who looked

looked upon them in their low estate. Charles is at this time not only the partner but the son-in-law of his beloved master; one of the sweet girls who pitied him as she sat in her father's barouche, while he wept over his poney, having become the wife of his bosom.

Thomas has lately become possessor of a sweet rectory in the romantic county of Derby, where he is blessed by the society of that dear mother, whose presence was ever so peculiarly dear to him, and who hopes to spend the evening of life with him, in joyful contemplation of a future.

He

He is beloved and revered by his rustic parishioners, and admired and esteemed by their superiors. He enjoys an extensive acquaintance amongst great literary characters, and is himself an approved author; but his highest praise is that of being an useful shepherd of his flock—an upright and zealous minister of the gospel he preaches.

Free from all affectation, and awake to every social feeling, in the happy and grateful intercourse he holds with his first learned patron, he does not forget the kindness of the worthy haberdasher,

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